

AP Psychology

10 Important Words

Miller

Directions: Memorize these definitions (which are listed here in no particular order ☺)...

- Predisposition – preprogrammed (usually genetically) tendency of a person towards exhibiting a particular set of traits or behaviors; actuality of the behavior or trait is strongly influenced by environmental factors
- Cognition – all the mental activities associated with thinking, knowing, remembering, and communicating
- Homeostasis – tendency of an organism to maintain a balanced or constant internal state; involves regulation of any aspect of body chemistry
- Self-Efficacy – level of one's *perception* about his/her ability to complete a particular task
- Culture – collection of enduring behaviors, ideas, attitudes, and traditions shared by a large group of people and transmitted from one generation to the next; NOT the same as ethnicity
- Conditioning – mode of learning that occurs when an environmental stimulus comes to be *associated* with another stimulus or behavior
- Schema – an organizing mental representation of reality and experience
- Gender – the biologically and socially influenced characteristics by which people define *male* and *female*; better understood in categories of *masculine* and *feminine*
- Approach/Perspective – particular way (or "lens") one may use to study, interpret, and explain the occurrence of specific behaviors and mental outcomes
- Empirical – particular mode of studying and understanding the external, physical world that is dependent upon observation of repeatable events